

John, don't you think Koning takes
Diplomacy too seriously?
No croak he plays for kicks.

STABBINGS

GAMESMASTER

IN THIS ISSUE

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27 January 1968

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sTab, a diplomacy magazine dedicated to the consumption of Rolling Rock and the denunciation of Red Cap and its followers, is published by John Koning, who also makes all the fascinating errors in each issue. Subscriptions are ten issues for one dollar, and trades are welcomed with all other diplomacy magazines except Jutland Jollies. This is because there is no such magazine. Send one dollar to Bob Lake (Apt. #904, 35 Esterbrook Ave., Willowdale, Ontario, Canada) and just see what he sends you. I dare you...

This issue's cover is once more by John Smythe, who still labors under the delusion that I have some sort of magickikal powers. Contrary to the announcement last issue, however, Mr. Smythe did offer Mr. Koning a drink at his house of New Year's Eve. Also on several other Eves. In fact, he offered a good many drinks each time. Did you ever put all the lightbulbs back on the Christmas tree, Mr. Smythe?

One regular and one three man game starts this issue, but contrary to my pessimistic announcement, they may not be the only games I begin in 1968. If a large number of my present games finish, as seems likely, I will start another regular game later this year.

Congratulations to Don Miller, also, who wins game Orthanc A in this issue. Don's win as Russia ties that country with Turkey for total wins, and makes Russia look more attractive than ever.

sTab #III

"Spring 1904"

6 January 1968

ROLAND TZUDIKER

ENGLAND: A Nwy-hold; F Lon (S) F Edi-Nth; F Edi-Nth; F Mid-Por;
F Bre-hold
TURKEY: F Ion (C) A Gro-Apu; A Gro-Apu; F Tun-WMed; F Tyrr-Rom;
A Ser-Tris; A Bul-Ser

JOHN McCALLUM

FRANCE: F Spa(sc)-Por; F Mar-Spa; A Par-Gas; A Pie-Tyr; F Rom (S)
A Nap; A Nap (S) F Rom; F Bel-Hol

((continued on page 3))

GERMANY: A Yor-Lvp; F Don-Bal; F Ber (S) F Don-Bal; A Sil (S)
 AUSTRIAN A Tyr-Boh; F Nih-Den
 AUSTRIA: A Tyr-Boh; A Tri (S) FRENCH A Pie-Tyr

LARRY PEERY

RUSSIA: F Swe-Den; F Bal (S) F Swe-Den; A StP-hold; A Mos-Lvn;
 A War-hold; A Sev-Rum; A Bud (S) A Vic; A Vie (S) A Bud;
 F Ank-hold

Underlined moves do not succeed. The German Fleet North Sea must retreat to either Helgoland Bight, Belgium, English Channel, Yorkshire, Skaggeiak, or the Norwegian Sea. The Russian Fleet Baltic must retreat to either Prussia, Sweden, Kiel, or the Gulf of Bothnia. Deadline for these retreats is Thursday, 18 January 1968. Note that if the "Miller Rule" were used in STAB, the support of the Russian Fleet Baltic would have been cut, and there would have been a standoff in Denmark.

 DEADLINE FOR RETREATS IS THURSDAY, 18 JANUARY 1968

DEADLINE FOR "FALL 1904" ORDERS IS SATURDAY, 27 JANUARY 1968

ST. PEERIGRAD In his sixth lecture of the term Dr. Peter H. Olmes this month discussed the continued presence of tri-partite factions without the world diplomatic community. Olmes, in the first lecture directly relating to diplomatic affairs discussed the tri-personages of various selected communities in the Diplomatic world.

First, New York. There is the unusual trio of Beshara-Griffin-and Prosnitz. Second, there is the equally unusual trio of Turner-Bailey-Dygert. Thirdly, there is the most unusual group of Lone-Beyerlein-Shagrin. These three communities centered on these three individuals possess certain similar characteristics which have grave consequences for the Diplomatic community at large. In each case there is one moderate person, having a restraining influence on the two more violent partners. There is one partner who is an extremist, whose position in the Diplomatic world is that of a backstabber and fink. There is one person who clouds himself in righteous hypocrisy, being to the world the appearance of good and friendliness but behind its back an equally great fink!

At this point Dr. Olmes lecture was interrupted by the appearance of scores of little old ladies at the back of the lecture hall who proceeded down the aisles carrying signs reading: "We love John!", "We Hate Peery!", "We Love Canada!", "Down With Leitchestein!" "Up With Down!", "Hate Love!", "We're Number One!", "Rule Britannia!" "Beshara's A Fink!", "So's Turner!", "Bailey's A Crook!", "Up With People!", "Beyerlein's a Bun!", etc. The little old ladies appeared to be under the direction of a tall, thin, greene-eyed young land who urged them to resist the Campus police who sought to expell them from the Hall. They finally were carried out but by then Dr. Olmes had given up and had retired from the stage...

NEW PEERYHAUS, PEERILAND Having completed the destruction of Austria, the Russian Government has ordered

its forces to begin the liberation of German Russia. The western Russian border now lies at the Peerynees Mountains.

OLD PEERYHAUS Gee, the mailbox sure looks empty!

ST. PEERIGRAD Mrs. Clara T. Bloomington-Withworth announced today that her Teatottlers Anonymous would conduct an investigation into the activities of the Ryerson College with a view toward establishing a branch of the organization there. Mrs. Bloomington-Withworth also announced that President Derek Nelson has been invited to speak at the annual convention of the Association at the St. Peerigrad Hilton later this year.

ERIE, PA (DWE) Harbor observers report a strange phenomenon: Lake Erie appears to be turning brown, and has acquired a white foam topping that seems to cover it completely. Swimmers at Presque Isle report the "water" seems delicious.

ST. PEERIGRAD (16 December 1903) A shocked world was saddened today to learn that His Imperial Majesty Tsar Justinus II had been the victim of an assassin while visiting in Copenhagen at the invitation of the German Government. While details were not immediately available it was learned from DWE that the Czar had been struck down by a bomb-throwing terrorist while visiting the famous Tivoli Gardens.

ST. PEERIGRAD (17 December 1903) The Russian Government, headed by Premier Aleri Sergevitch Babilinski, today demanded full explanations from the German Government for the assassination of the Russian Tsar. The Government announced that until a full explanation was forthcoming, units of the Russian fleet had been ordered to occupy Denmark, Russian forces were ordered mobilized, and all Germans in Russian territories were interned.

COPENHAGEN (17 December 1903) The Dannish Government today released details of the assassination of Tsar Justinus II yesterday. Named as the assassins were Feodor Koninlov and Ivan Kalluminski. Apparently Koninlov organized the plot, aided by yet undetermined friends, and used Kalluminski as his paid agent. The two hid themselves in the Gardens and as the Tsar passed nearby approached him and offered to sell him a copy of the Copenhagen STABOV, the daily paper. When the Tsar refused Koninlov drew a small object from his pocket, threw it at the Tsar, and ran. Kalluminski merely stood in front of the Tsar, clapping his hands in glee and shouting "Whee! Whee!" In the following explosion Kalluminski and the Tsar were both killed. A city-wide hunt disclosed that Koninlov had taken refuge in the German embassy, a sure indication of where his "friends" were.

ST. PEERIGRAD (18 December 1903) The Russian Government today demanded that the Germans hand over the assassin of their beloved Tsar. The Germans refused.

ST. PEERIGRAD (19 December 1903) The Russian Government today issued a declaration of war on Germany.

ST. PEERIGRAD (3 January 1904) The Tsarevitch Carling today assumed the throne of the Romanovs as Tsar Carling Ist. His first address to the assembled nobles was an indication of future Russian policy.

"Too long we have been ignored. Russia today assumes her rightful place as an equal among all nations. No one, particularly those nasty Germans can insult us, murder our beloved father and Tsar, without feeling our rightful vengeance.

"Henceforth our entire effort will be devoted to destroying the monster that lies to our west. Before it too succumbs to Peeritis it must be wiped out."

ST. PEERIGRAD (5 January 1904) His Imperial Majesty Carling Ist today attended a special lecture by Dr. Peter H. Olmes. The latest Olmes' lecture, entitled "On War As a Means to All Ends," was perhaps the most bellicose message ever heard at the University of St. Peerigrad.

ST. PEERIGRAD (6 January 1904) His Imperial Majesty Carling Ist today attended a special service marking the 2,506th anniversary of the resurrection of Peery from the dead. The festive event was marked by nation-wide festivities as the official period of mourning for Tsar Justinus II ended.

QUEBEC (7 January 1904) Free Quebec, under the leadership of Premier Charles le'Nose, today announced that it would become the second state to establish Peerism as the official religion.

TORONTO (DVE) Dr. Peter Fuchins Krundnik, Professor of Slavic Languages at Ryerson College, today demanded that the Republic of Toronto join with free Quebec in adopting Peerism as the official religion of the Republic. Without delay Krundnik was fired by the Board of Regents.

SANTA PEERIUS The Center for Peerieratic Studies today announced that Dr. Peter Fuchins Krundnik had been appointed as Director of its newly established Peerism Cult Division.

PEERIJAVO The Government of Peerijavo today announced that it had approved construction of a \$ 32,000,000 memorial to the memory of its first ruler, Che Peeri. Engaged as consulting architect was the noted Canadian architect John Sherman Evanston, whose latest building was the Sarah F. Allen Memorial Theater in Ralston, Alberta, Canada.

LURLEENS WALKER LIVES... ON A NAVY PENSION...

PLEASANT HILLS Meeting with members of the press, William Lawrence today confirmed his decision to seek the Congressional seat vacated by Congressman Rin-tin-tin after the resignation

of California's senior member of the House. Said Lawrence: "Bark!"

PEERIVILLE The Greater Peerian Conspiracy today announced that an examination of the fingerprints, toeprints, and... censored... habits of one Rodney Walker and one John Koning confirmed them both to be none other than Derek Nelson... tak, tak.

BROOKLYN Yes, John, there is a Santa Claus. He lives in Dak To.

PEERIS Viva Free Peeris! STAB V FOLLOWS TRANTOR!!!

TRANTOR

#68/SVG #68

"Fall 1915, Game II"

6 January 1968

FALL MANEUVERS INCONCLUSIVE STALEMATE CONTINUES

ENGLAND: F Mid (S) FRENCH F Spa(sc); F Nat (S) F Mid; A Ber (S) (McCallum) A Sil; A Pru (S) A Sil; A Lvn-hold; A StP (S) A Lvn; A sil (S) FRENCH A Mun

FRANCE: F Mar (S) F Spa(sc); F Spa(sc) (S) F Mar; A Bur (S) (Reinsel) A Mun; A Gas (S) F Mar; A Mun (S) ENGLISH A Sil; A Kie (S) A Mun; F Por (S) F Spa(sc); F Bre (S) ENGLISH F Mid; F Iri (S) ENGLISH F Mid; A Pic-hold

TURKEY: A Pie-Mar; F Nat-Mid; F WMed-Spa; F Tun (S) F WMed; (Smythe) F Tyr-WMed; F Lyon-Spa; A Ven-Tyr; A Tyr-Mun; A Boh (S) A Tyr-Mun; A Vie (S) A Boh; A Gal, A Ukr, & A Mos (S) A War; A War & A Sev (S) A Mos; F Tus-Lyon; A Bud does an hysterical dance on a plaque inscribed "Here occurred another of Nelson's Austrian triumphs."

Underlined moves do not succeed. There are no Winter builds or removals. The supply center chart below is for reference only.

DEADLINE FOR "SPRING 1916" ORDERS IS SATURDAY, 27 JANUARY 1968

SUPPLY CENTER CHART:

ENGLAND: Edi, Lon, Nwy, Swe, StP, Den, Ber ((7))
FRANCE: Bre, Par, Mar, Bel, Spa, Por, Mun, Hol, Kie, Lvn ((10))
TURKEY: Ank, Sny, Con, Bul, Gre, Scr, Rum, Sev, War, Mos, Bud, Vie, Tri, Ven, Tun, Rom, Nap ((17))

+++++
STAB, continued from above. STAB V will commence in STab 43:

ENGLAND	Harold (Hal) Naus	GERMANY	Derek (Admiral) Nelson
FRANCE	681 I Street	ITALY	18 Granards Blvd.
TURKEY	Space B-11	AUSTRIA	Scarborough, Ontario
	Chula Vista, Calif. 92010		Canada

+ + RUSSIA: John (Wentworth) Smythe, 621 E. Prospect, Girard, Ohio
44420

DEADLINE FOR "SPRING 1901" ORDERS IS SATURDAY, 27 JANUARY 1968

Now, back to Trantor:

"Fall 1906, Game III"

A U S T R I A O V E R R U N S S O U T H E R N R U S S I A . . .
B R E S T F A L L S T O I T A L I A N F O R C E S

SUMMER 1906: RUSSIAN F Sweden retreats to Gulf of Bothnia

ENGLAND: F Tun-hold; ~~F Tun~~; F Bar-Nwg; F Swe-Den; A Nwy-Yor;
(Pournelle) F Nth (C) A Nwy-Yor; F Iri-hold; A Bel-Bur

FRANCE: A Par-Bre
(Reinsel)

GERMANY: A Ruh (S) ENGLISH A Bel-Bur; F Den (S) A Kie; A Kie-hold
(Latimer)

ITALY: F Tyrr-Tun; F WMed (S) F Tyrr-Tun; A Pie-hold; A Mar-
(Clark) Bur; A Gas-Bre; F Mid (S) A Gas-Bre; F Nat-Nwg

AUSTRIA: F Bla (S) A Arm-Sev; F Aeg (S) F Alb-Ion; F Alb-Ion;
(Smythe) A Bul-Rum; A Gal-War; A Ukr-Mos; A Tyr-Boh; A Mun (S)
A Ber; A Sil-Prus; A Ber (S) A Mun; A Arm-Sev

RUSSIA: A Fin-StP; F Both (S) A Fin-StP; F Sev-Rum; A StP-Mos
(Nelson)

Underlined moves do not succeed. The Russian Fleet Sevastapol is annihilated. The English Fleet Tunis is retreated to North Africa. The English player has until Thursday, 18 January 1968 to exercise his option to remove rather than retreat (if the former Fleet Tunis is removed, England would have a build coming in "Winter 1906.>").

DEADLINE FOR "WINTER 1906" ORDERS IS SATURDAY, 27 JANUARY 1968

BUILDS:

ENGLAND: Lon, Lvp, Edi, Nwy, Bel, Hol, ~~Brk~~, Swe ((7)) No change

FRANCE: Par ((1)) No change

GERMANY: Kie, Den, ~~Mun~~ ((2)) Remove ONE

ITALY: Nap, Ven, Tun, Spa, Mar, Rom, Por, Bre ((8)) Build ONE

AUSTRIA: Vie, Tri, Bud, Ser, Gre, Rum, Bul, Con, Ank, Ber, Smy,

Mun, War, Sev ((14)) Build THREE

RUSSIA: ~~Wnt~~, Mos, StP, ~~Scy~~, ~~Sve~~ ((2)) Remove ONE

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

Jerry E. Pournelle
12051 Laurel Terrace
Studio City, Calif. 91604

"Winter 1900, Game IV"

C L O U D S O V E R E U R O P E . . . A G A I N

At last, a new year dawns, and we turn the clocks back once more to 1900 and visit idyllic, peaceful, war-torn Europe. Unless one looks carefully, one hardly notices the impressions of countless unhappy events on the landscape. True, Austria will never be quite the same after Derek Nelson's valiant attempt to turn it into a slag pit. Admittedly, England has not quite recovered from its experiences under the Falderal and Belial governments. Of course, Turkey is a little vacant, now that all its citizens have been incarcerated in the Monastery of St. Yurodivi at Magadan, for impersonating Russian rulers. And there are, naturally, the usual bullet holes, shell craters, and assorted scars of battle to be seen. But it's all over now... no more wars will be started surely?

Ah, then who is the sinister figure parading around the Reichstag, clad in a bear-skin robe and wearing a horned Viking helmet? Who is the lyricist composing pro-war limericks in the Royal Palace in Vienna? What villain has secretly entered Versailles after disembarking from a fabulous ship from the Orient? Who, for that matter, are the dark figures skulking about the capitals of the other European powers? Merciful heaven, can it possibly mean yet another pointless struggle in which millions will lose their lives, in which friendships will be broken, in which reputations will be made and lost, and in which John Koning will spend a fortune on postage?

Only time will tell.

COUNTRY	PLAYER	PHONE AND HOURS
ENGLAND	Keith Koalenz 2021 Ridge Avenue Evanston, Ill. 60201	(312) 864-5379 7 to 8 pm
FRANCE	SSgt Chris R. Wagner Box 6008 APO San Francisco 96328 AFTER 25 JANUARY: Mr. C.R. Wagner c/o Strategy and Tactics Box 11-187 Loudonville, N.Y. 12211	
GERMANY	John W. Snythe 621 E. Prospect Girard, Ohio 44420	(216) 545-3058 T,W,Th,F,Sat & Sun about 5 pm
ITALY	Eugene Prosnitz 200 Clinton St. Brooklyn, N.Y. 11201	(212) 855-0089 Evenings and weekends
AUSTRIA	Roland Tzudiker 895 Carr St. Denver, Colo. 80215	(303) 237-4035 After 5 pm weekdays except Thur. Catch as catch can on weekends

((continued on page 9))

RUSSIA Robert Ward (916) 455-2785
2704 S Street After 9 pm
Sacramento, Calif. 95816

TURKEY Terry Kuch (703) 525-2169
1910 13th St. N. evenings & weekends
Apt. 204 (703) 528-3141
Arlington, Va. 22201 9-5, M-F

DEADLINE FOR "SPRING 1901" ORDERS IS SATURDAY, 27 JANUARY 1968



MASSIF^{no} 53



Game 1966I

"Winter 1910"

6 January 1968

ENGLISH NAVY REDUCED
OTHER POWERS GROW

ENGLAND: Remove Fleet Norwegian
(Cartier)

FRANCE: Build Army Paris
(Tzudiker)

GERMANY: Build Fleet Berlin
(Naus)

TURKEY: Build Fleet Smyrna
(Davidson)

DEADLINE FOR "SPRING 1911" ORDERS IS SATURDAY, 27 JANUARY 1968

"Winter 1905, Game III"

THREE CAPITALS SILENT
FRENCH, TURKISH RECRUITMENT LAGS

ENGLAND: Builds Fleet Edinburgh, Fleet Liverpool
(Zelazny)

FRANCE: No move received. Could have built one.
(Turner)

ITALY: No move received. Gamesmaster removes Fleet Apulia.
(MacKenzie)

AUSTRIA: Builds Army Trieste, Army Budapest
(Francis)

((continued on page 10))

TURKEY: No move received. Could have built one.
(Shagrin)

DEADLINE FOR "SPRING 1906" ORDERS IS SATURDAY, 27 JANUARY 1968

ORTHANC 41

Game 1965R

"Fall 1913, Game A"

6 January 1968

R U S S I A N A R M S G A I N V I C T O R Y

MILLER WINS SECOND GAME

SUMMER 1913

FRANCE retreats F London to Wales

FALL 1913

FRANCE: A Lvp (S) F Edi; A Pic-Par; A Gas (S) F Mid-Bre; F Edi-
(Reinsel) hold; F Wal-Eng; F Mid-Bre; F Mar-hold; F Lyon (S) F Mar;
F Tun-hold

RUSSIA: F Nwg (S) A Cly-Edi; F Nth (S) A Cly-Edi; A Cly-Edi;
(Miller) F Bar-hold; F Nwy-hold; F Lon-hold; A Bel-Pic; A Hol-Bel;
A Bur-Gas; A Ruh-Bur; A Bre-hold; F Eng-Mid; A Mun (S)
A Ruh-Bur; A Boh-hold; A Gal-Vie

TURKEY: No move received. F's Rom, Tyrr, Ion, Aeg, Abu; A's Pie,
(Chalker) Tus, Nap, Ven, Tyr-stand

Underlined moves do not succeed. The French Fleet Edinburgh is re-
treated to Yorkshire. The supply center chart appears below:

FRANCE: Par, Mar, Por, Spa, Run, ~~Lon~~, Lvp, ~~Bol~~, ~~Edi~~ ((6)) Remove 3
RUSSIA: Sev, War, Mos, StP, Nwy, Swe, Den, Ber, Kie, Mun, Rum, Vie,
Bud, Bre, Hol, Bel, Lon, Edi ((18)) Build THREE
TURKEY: Con, Ank, Smy, Gre, Tri, Rom, Nap, Ven, Bul, Ser ((10))
No change

As I have Russia's builds on hand, and there is thus no chance that
Russia will fail to have 18 pieces on hand at the end of the "Winter
1913" moves, I declare the game at an end. Congratulations, Don.

A summary and analysis follows:

	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13
England	3	4	5	4	2	3	1						
France	5	7	7	9	12	13*	12	12	12	11	10	9	6
Germany	4*	3	1	1	1								
Italy	5	6	7	7	6	3	2	1					
Austria	3	3	2										
Russia	5	7	8	8	7	9	11	11	12	13	14	15	18
Turkey	4	4	4	5	6	7	8	10	10	10	10	10	10

Gamesmaster: Ron Bounds (dro W10) Barad-Dur (thru W03)
 " " Orthanc (thru W10)
 John Koning sTab

As is usual, in the chart on the preceding page, an asterisk represents a center owned but unbuilt-for.

PLAYERS: E - Lon Atkins (res S06)
 Mark Owings (out F08)
 F - Charles Reinsel
 G - Steve Barr (droF02)
 John McCallum (out F06)
 I - Jerald Jacks (res F05)
 Joel Sattel (out S09)
 A - Alan Huff (out F04)
 R - Donald Miller (won F13)
 T - Jack Chalker

GAMESMASTER'S SUMMARY Orthanc A, 1965R, was the first game organized by Ron Bounds and Jack Chalker for Barad-Dur, and was begun simultaneously with game B, under the gamesmanship of Jack Chalker. Although the game was begun in July 1965, it consumed only two years playing time, since there was a six month hiatus following the "Winter 1910" moves, ending when Orthanc was incorporated into sTab. The game was carried in Barad-Dur until the Winter 1903 move, the first to appear in Orthanc, Bounds' offshoot from BD.

Although dominated by Baltimore area players, geographical alliances were significant only in the case of the Russo-Turkish entente (which incorporated replacement player Mark Owings' England during 1907 and 1908). It was ultimately the indestructibility of the Chalker-Miller alliance, however, that ended France's hopes for victory.

Parts of my analysis of the game are based on surmise, I must admit, since my collection of Barad-Dur and Orthanc is far from complete.

In the early portion of the game France and Italy made the strongest showings, although Russia and Turkey, after a skirmish in 1901, did unify. Germany and England were sporadically and ineptly played by Barr and Atkins, and this heavily influenced the course of the game. Germany's failure to move from Fall 1901 to Winter 1902 took such pressure off Russia that, combined with the English immobility and the Turkish alliance, Miller's course was fairly easy.

In 1901 Italy drove into Austria, and proceeded in 1902 to consolidate his position. Although faced with a Turko-Russian alliance, Jacks made an excellent showing, and was actually making progress against the eastern alliance when, in 1905, he was taken in the rear by a French attack. France had, in the meantime, swarmed through the lowlands and, with the aid of England, was fighting the Russians and annihilating the Germans. The French-English cooperation was beneficial only to France, however, who quickly wiped up the English centers when Atkins began to falter.

John McCallum, who took over play of Germany in 1903, actually had little chance of survival, since all his neighbors had a three move jump on him. The Germans were soon reduced to one force, which had little effect on the game.

I believe that the French attack on Italy, in 1905, was a major strategic blunder. When attacked, Italy was more than containing the Russians and the Turks, and was taking considerable pressure off the north. When hit by France, Italy quickly folded, and the eastern alliance rushed in to fill the vacuum. A Franco-Italian alliance would have had more chance in stopping the alliance and, as Italy would have had little room for expansion, would have been all to the advantage of the French.

In 1906 and 1907 replacement players made desultory attempts to salvage Italy and England, but to no avail. Both countries were caught between France in the west and the alliance in the east, and could do little to escape their fate.

After 1907, with Italy in civil disorder, the game became a tactical exercise, for as long as the Russian-Turkish alliance held the end was inevitable. Turkey played a very lethargic game, with most of the alliance's gains being made by Russia. When I took control of the game in Spring 1911, Chalker had entrenched himself in Italy and the eastern half of the Mediterranean and did little afterwards.

The game would have been prolonged somewhat had not Reinsel, fearing a slow war of attrition that would eliminate France while giving Russia her victory in any case, decided to hold the line against Turkey while retreating before Russia. This decision hastened the victory, but insured the survival of France.

It must be noted, however, that Miller's play of Russia in the later years was especially skillful, and consistently showed great imagination.

Once again, Don, our congratulations on your win.

Spring 1910, Game D

G E R M A N S E N T E R B U D A P E S T
T U R K I S H R E S I S T A N C E D E T E R M I N E D

FRANCE: F Mar-Lyon; A Par-Bur; A Bur-Mar; F Eng-Nth; A Lvp-Yor;
(Miller) A Tus-Ven; A Ven-Tri; F Tun (S) F Ion; F Tyrr (S) F Ion;
F Apu (S) F Ion; F Adt (S) A Ven-Tri; F Ion-hold; A Vie
(S) GERMAN A Tri-Bud

GERMANY: A StP-Mos; A Lvn (S) A StP-Mos; A Mos-Sev; A Ukr (S)
(Huff) A Mos-Sev; A War (S) A Ukr; A Gal (S) A Tri-Bud; A Tri-
Bud; A Boh-hold; A Sil (S) A Gal; A Ber-Mun; F Den-Nth;
A Mun-Tyr

TURKEY: A Arn (S) A Sev; A Sev (S) A Rum; A Rum (S) A Ser-Bud;
(Reinsel) A Ser-Bud; A Bul (S) A Rum; F Alb-Tri; F Gre-Aeg;
F Aeg-Con; F EMed-Aeg

Underlined moves do not succeed.

DEADLINE FOR "FALL 1910" ORDERS IS SATURDAY, 27 JANUARY 1968

----- "Winter 1905, Game H" -----
-----FRANCE REMAINS INACTIVE
RUSSIA DOWN TO TWO FORCES

FRANCE: No move received. Could have built one.
(Hakulin)

GERMANY: Builds Army Berlin
(Thomson)

AUSTRIA: Builds Army Budapest
(Reinsel)

RUSSIA: No move received. Gamesmaster removes Army Livonia.
(Owings)

TURKEY: Builds Fleet Smyrna, Fleet Constantinople
(Latimer)

----- DEADLINE FOR "SPRING 1906" ORDERS IS SATURDAY, 27 JANUARY 1968

VIENNA Austria hopes Germany will continue her friendly neighbor
pact!

=====

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: James W. Latimer III
4011 Silver Hill Rd.
From January 18 to Suitland, Md. 20023
January 28

STATISTICAL ABSTRACTS

====++++-----++++=====++++-----++++=====++++-----++++=====++++

In stab 41 I discussed the so-called Supply Center-Year rating system, and present data on total supply center-years accumulated for some individuals (the top 25), and average center-years for all players (save those with less than ten game years accumulated). This data, on individuals, is of some interest, but -- as I pointed out -- should not be considered as constituting a rating system, for a wide variety of reasons.

Of perhaps a little more interest -- from a statistical if not a personal point of view -- is similar data on countries rather than on players. For this purpose, of course, only completed games will be used. Specifically, the 25 completed 7 man games of regular diplomacy not judged to be variants by most gamesmasters: 1963B; 1964 A, B, D; 1965A, B, D, E, F, G, H, I, L, M, R, S, T; 1966B, D, E, M, O, R, AK, AQ. The data is summarized below:

	ENG.	FRA.	GER.	ITA.	AUS.	RUS.	TUR.
Total Center-Yrs.	1381	1714	912	940	1526	1445	1691
Total Years	209	267	184	209	217	207	237
Average Center-Yrs./Yr.	6.608	6.669	4.957	4.498	7.032	6.981	7.135
Average Centers/Game	55.24	68.56	36.48	37.60	61.04	57.80	67.64
Average Years/Game	8.36	10.68	7.36	8.36	8.68	8.28	9.48

This data provides few surprises, but it does establish what many players and gamesmasters have been saying about various countries for some time. France, for example, has both the highest total centers and the highest total years figures, and yet only the fourth highest average centers/yr. The (non-arithmetic) reason for that is obvious. France usually survives to the end of a game, and usually does moderately well, but rarely wins games. It has piled up more center-years than any other country, but they have been distributed more evenly over the 25 games than is true with any other country.

There have, by the way, been a total of 290 game years played in the 25 games underdiscussion, which makes the average game 11.6 years in length.

On the other hand, the cases of Germany and Italy illustrate points about those two countries. Both have about the same center-year total, but Germany's average is about .5 higher than Italy's. Germany is often set upon in diplomacy games, as evidenced by its low year-played total, but it is, on the other hand, usually wiped out quite quickly, while Italy drags along for a number of years with several centers before being finished off.

Turkey has the highest average, indicating that it either does very well in games (first or second place) and is set upon and quickly eliminated. England, on the other hand, when not doing well still usually hangs on for quite a while, and its average is consequently .

The surprises in the game are Russia and, more specifically, Austria. Until its recent wins (one in this issue) Russia was a popular but low rated country. Recent successes have bettered its record considerably.

The real surprise in this case is Austria, long the most unpopular country in play. As one player put it "Austria may have a lot of potential, but I don't want to try developing it". On the country preference cards for the Trantor IV game begun in this issue, only John Smythe rated Austria higher than fifth place (and Smythe has good reason to be fond of Austria). And yet Austria's data shows an amazing toughness and lasting ability for the country. Like Germany, Austria is often set upon immediately and thrown out of the game. But unlike Germany, in those games where this does not happen, Austria's showing is likely to be quite good.

Of course, as more of the 88 to 90 games currently in progress are finished, the trend of this data may change drastically. The drawback to any analysis of data from completed games -- as John McCallum has pointed out numerous times -- is that these results reflect conditions as they were from 6 months to several years in the past. The trends in play that are happening now will not become apparent in these statistics until 9 months to a year from now. If time permits, I will prepare similar data for all games, completed and current, to see whether the results are similar. But not today...

In response to last issue's STastical ABstract, JERRY POURNELLE wrote:

"Why oh why did you not rate me on the average supply centers per year thingumbob?" And I must confess, Jerry, that it is for the same reason that I consistently lose your momes in 1967A: some of us have decided that you are too good a player, and are working to "get" you in any way possible. Wait until you see what happens next.

Actually, Jerry was omitted from the chart due to an oversight

(heh heh). Your average, as of the time the list was made, was 8.848, placing you between Don Miller and John Austin, in 8th place.

LARRY PEERY mentioned "What is the purpose of bringing up people like Pelz, Calhamar, Atkins, etc., etc., if they are no longer active? I would rather see more attention focused on live bodies than on dead ones..."

That is, of course, an interesting point. I originally included all players, active or inactive, because I wanted to present the results of all games, completed and current. If I were to run this list on any sort of frequent basis, I should probably include only current players. This would eliminate the discouragingly high totals of people like Pelz(es) and Calhamar who played in only one game and did very well, and reflect a comparison between or among those people still playing. That comparison is the one most of us probably find more interesting. Besides, if I drop the inactive players, then I'm only in 13th place.

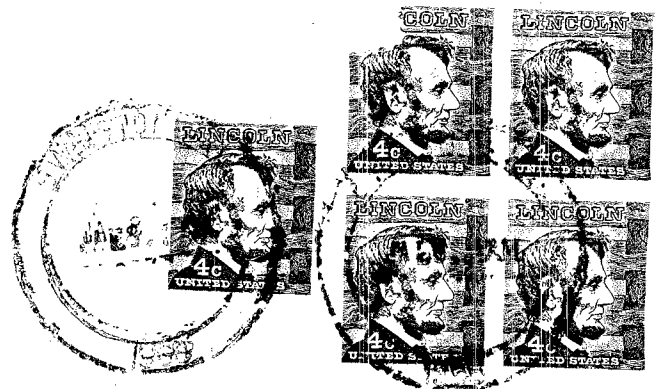
DEREK NELSON, in a phone conversation today (he got me out of bed this morning), said words to the effect that "Why don't you drop this supply center junk and get to work on a system that makes you and me look good, eh, Koning?"

He has a point there.

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